

Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

Wayne County Brownfields Redevelopment Authority, MI

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The Wayne County Brownfields Redevelopment Authority was selected to receive assessment grants. Over 2,000 brownfields and 1,638 open leaking underground storage tank sites have been mapped in Wayne County, which includes Detroit and five smaller communities with populations under 100,000. Detroit alone contains thousands of brownfields. While the statewide poverty rate is 10.5 percent, the average poverty rate in the county is 16.4 percent. Poverty rates in four county communities exceed 20 percent. The assessment of brownfields in the county's most distressed areas will stimulate economic development opportunities for impoverished communities. The county's brownfields program will continue to be a very public process involving government, foundations, and community-based organizations.



Assessment Grants

\$200,000 for hazardous substances \$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected the Wayne County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority to receive brownfields assessment grants. The county plans to select sites for assessment using an established process that involves impacted communities, perform Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments, and develop redevelopment plans. The county, which includes the City of Detroit, contains thousands of brownfields left over from a long history of heavy industry, will focus on its most economically distressed areas.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team 312-886-7576 http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields/

Grant Recipient: Wayne County Brownfields Redevelopment Authority, MI 313-224-0749

Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, the Wayne County Brownfields Redevelopment Authority has not received brownfields grant funding. Wayne County has received brownfields funding for assessment and revolving loan fund grants.

The cooperative agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.